Art Unit: 1762

Date: May 28,2004

Remarks and Arguments

Claims 37-43 and 45-52 were presented for examination. By this Amendment, Applicant is amending claims 37-39, 45, 46, 49 and 52. Applicant is adding new claims 54-81. As a result, claims 37-43 and 45-81, with claims 37, 53, 54, 64 and 73, being independent claims, remain in the application. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 37-43 and 45-52 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-15 of U.S. Patent 6,645,547.

Applicant has amended independent claim 37 so that it is no longer coextensive in scope as that of claim 1 of U.S. Patent 6,645,547. Claims 38-43 and 45-52 depend from independent claim 37. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under §101 has been overcome and requests that it be withdrawn.

Additional Claims

Applicant has added new claims 53-81 directed to other aspects of the present invention. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added and that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes the claims are in allowable condition. A notice of allowance for this application is solicited earnestly. If the Examiner has any further questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below. The Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any balances under 37 CFR §§1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-3038.

Respectfully submitted,

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